Forest Insect & Disease Management

Report No. 79-3-42

Forest Insect and Disease Management Unit
U.S. Forest Service
Doraville, Georgia

Aerial Detection Survey of Forest Insect and Disease Activity, Angelina National Forest, Sam Houston National Forest, Sabine National Forest and Davy Crockett National Forest

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Angelina, Sam Houston, Sabine and Davy Crockett National Forests

STATE: Texas

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 1,225,000

DATE: June 18-21, 1979

PERCENT COVERAGE: Sam Houston NF, 100%; Angelina & Sabine NF 50%

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 172

CREW: Kathy Stein (USFS, FIDM, Alexandria, LA) Bob Bassett (USFS Aerial Survey Team, Doraville, GA) Vernon Ellison (San Jacinto RD) Millard Smith (Yellow Pine RD) William Jackson (Raven RD) and Steve Martinet (Angelina RD)

REPORT PREPARED BY: R.F. Bassett

SURVEY OBJECTIVES

To detect the presence of southern pine beetle infestation.

SURVEY RESULTS

Observers were unable to locate any significant amounts of current pine mortality (see table 1).

The largest spot of dead trees that could be attributed to southern pine beetle activity was 12 trees in size and was located on the Yellow Pine Ranger District, Sabine National Forest. Millard Smith (Yellow Pine RD) indicated he will ground check this one and one other small adjoining spot.

CONCLUSIONS

Southern pine beetle activity is apparently low at the present time.

Table I: Summary of Aerial Survey Data, Sam Houston, Sabine & Davy Crockett National Forests
June 18 thru June 21, 1979

Ranger District 3/	Infestation Size (# Trees)											
	1		2-5		6-20		21-50		51-100		TOTAL	
	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees
Sam Houston NF 1/ San Jacinto RD			3	8							3	9
Sam Houston NF 1/ Raven RD			5	13							5	13
Sabine NF 2/ Tenaha RD			3	8							3	8
Sabine NF 2/ Yellow Pine RD			3	9	2	18					5	27
Davy Crockett NF 2/ Neches RD			8	19							8	19
Davy Crockett NF 2/ Trinity RD			3	6							4	6
Angelina NF 2/ Angelina RD			2	6	1	8					4	14

1/ 100% coverage based on flight lines spaced two miles apart with a 1 mile viewing strip on each side of the plane.
2/ 50% coverage based on flight lines spaced four miles apart with a 1 mile viewing strip on each side of the plane.
3/ All data is for federal ownership only.